

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ABORIGINAL POPULATION.

The Government Statist obtains particulars annually of the known aboriginal population through the agency of Police Officers and also reports from Stations and Farms. An analysis of these indicates an aboriginal population about 30th June, 1931 of 3,349 (3,995). The report that a number of aborigines had crossed the border to Queensland and New South Wales, probably accounts to some extent for the decreased total.

CLASSIFICATION OF RECORDED ABORIGINALS AS IN JUNE, 1931.

	Full-bloods		Half Castes		Total		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total
Nomadic	608	537	278	287	886	824	1,710
In regular employment	184	81	270	48	454	129	583
In supervised camps	42	45	264	348	306	393	699
Other	80	80	86	111	166	191	357
Grand Total	914	743	898	794	1,812	1,537	3,349
Adults	742	590	581	443	1,323	1,033	2,356
Children	172	153	317	351	489	504	993
TOTAL	914	743	898	794	1,812	1,537	3,349

The 3,349 recorded aborigines are divided into two main classes, - those living in the wild estate (Nomadic), 1,710 (51%) and those living in Camps and on Stations and Farms, 1,639 (49%). Of the latter, 583 were in regular employment and 699 were in supervised camps but not in regular employment, and 357 were described as dependants of those employed outside of supervised camps or not working.

FULL-BLOODS, - numbered 1,657 or (50%) of the total, divided thus - Adults 1,332, Children 325.

HALF CASTES, (and lesser castes) numbered 1,692 (50%), adults 1,024 children 668.

IN SUPERVISED CAMPS. (Mission Stations). The number 699 shown under this heading excludes 179 returned as regularly employed. Thus in the three Mission Stations, Pt. Pearce, Koonibba and Pt. McLeay there were 878 aborigines.

EMPLOYED. Of the grand total 3,349, - 583 (17%) were returned as regularly employed. Excluding the 179 employed in Mission camps, there would be 404 employed chiefly on stations and farms.

W. L. JOHNSTON,